3102862795

T-524

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 101.0056-02000

Customer No. 22882

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

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NOV 1 2001

Gary K. Michelson

Group Art Unit: 3731

Serial No.: 09/618,037

Examiner: D. Reip

Filed: July 17, 2000

For: SINGLE-LOCK ANTERIOR **CERVICAL PLATE (AS AMENDED)** 

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

## <u>AMENDMENT</u>

Prior to the examination of the above-identified application, the following amendments and remarks are submitted:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 540, 554, 559, 582, 587, 605, 612-620, 623, 631, 632, 640, and 641 without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter and amend the claims (with the changes as shown in the attachment) as follows:

538. (Amended) A plate system adapted for use in the anterior human cervical spine for contacting the anterior aspect of at least two cervical vertebral bodies, said plate system comprising:

a plate having a longitudinal axis and a length sufficient to span at least two cervical vertebral bodies, a lower surface for placement against the cervical vertebral bodies, said lower surface being concave along a substantial portion of

Amendment as filed 2

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